

Sacramento River Conservation Area
Board of Directors
Minutes

October 25, 2001
4:00 p.m.

Willows City Hall
Willows, Ca.

Chairman Ben Carter called the meeting of the Sacramento River Conservation Area to order at 4:05 p.m. at the above location. It was determined there was a quorum of (9) voting members present.

<u>County</u>	<u>Public Interest</u>	<u>Landowner</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Butte	Jane Dolan	(Shirley Lewis)	
Colusa	Doug White	Ben Carter	
Glenn	Denny Bungarz	Don Anderson	
Shasta	(Glenn Hawes)	Dan Gover	
Sutter	Dan Silva	(Russell Young)	
Tehama	(Bill Borror)	Brendon Flynn	
Yolo	(Lynnel Pollock)	(Marc Faye)	
Resources Agency			Mel Dodgin
Cal DFG			Diana Jacobs
State Reclamation Board			Pete Rabbon
USF&WS			Dan Castleberry
US COE			(Mark Charlton)
Cal DWR			(Dwight Russell)
Bureau of Reclamation			Laura Allen

Names listed in parentheses represent absences
Also present an estimated audience of 20 interested persons
Manager Burt Bundy
Assistant, Pat Brown, Recording Secretary
Resources Agency
Cal DWR

Tim Ramirez
Adam Henderson

1. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, UNSCHEDULED MATTERS** - John Merz, SRPT, made brochures available on the State of the Sacramento River Conference scheduled for November 17th and 18th at the Red Bluff Community Center. Diana Jacobs, DF&G, announced the appointment of Denny Bungarz to the new federally chartered CALFED Public Advisory Committee. Diana also provided the Board members with copies of "Farming for Wildlife", a brochure which discussed ways of attracting wildlife to your farm.
2. **CONSENT CALENDAR** – Denny Bungarz moved, seconded by Doug White to adopt the September 27, 2001 minutes. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
3. **BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS** - The Chairman moved agenda item #4, Board Committee Reports, ahead of the Manager's Report because of time constraints for Dan Keppen.

- **TAC Report** – Chairman Dan Keppen discussed the October 17th meeting that looked at a draft Project Review document. Dan reported there was good discussion and the ideas and suggestions that came from it will be forwarded to the Committee that will be defining the process. The language for the Conservation Area was also discussed, there has been a great deal of confusion on what that area is all about. Stacy discussed the history of how it was originally defined. It was determined a lot of discussion is still needed on this area. Dan had announced at the TAC that he had accepted a new position in the Klamath Basin. He expressed his thanks to the Board and told them what a pleasure it had been working with this group. Diana Jacobs presented Dan with a F&G hat, the Chairman thanked Dan and all wished him the best in his new endeavors. Denny suggested the SRCA staff draft a letter expressing the Board's gratitude to Dan for his efforts as TAC Chair.
 - **Executive Committee Report** – Chair Ben Carter noted the discussion items at the Executive Committee included (1) the Attorney search is ongoing. Burt has made contact with two attorneys, is waiting for a response from the third. A decision has not been made as yet. (2) the project review process – a committee was appointed at the last Board meeting; discussions will continue and the draft project review draft will continue to be modified (3) replacement for Dan Keppen as Chairman of the TAC was discussed; several candidates had expressed an interest. The recommendation from the Executive Committee to the Board was to appoint Anjanette Martin, NCWA, as Chair and Stacy Cepello, DWR, as Vice-Chair. It was moved by Doug White, seconded by Denny Bungarz to accept the recommendation from the Executive Committee. Motion passed by unanimous vote. (4) TNC has submitted a grant proposal for the Colusa Sub-reach plan. The Chairman asked that the copies be made available to all Board members (5) The Comprehensive Study Sacramento River Basin workshops will be held Oct 26th in Sacramento, Nov. 1 in Red Bluff, Nov. 8 in Chico, and Nov. 14 in Colusa. The Comp Study has named the Conservation Area as part of their efforts and the Chairman encourages all Board members to attend the workshops before the December meeting – will have an agenda item for discussion of those meetings.
 - **LAC Committee** - Ben reported that the Committee is trying to draft a Good Neighbor Policy, have a rough draft but it still needs a lot of work. Will continue developing at the next meeting scheduled for November 8th.
 - **Econ/PILT Committee** - Denny Bungarz reported on the October 18th meeting; the group discussed federal and state PILT and how they were distributed. Glenn County receives about \$0.17 for every \$1.00 collected in federal PILT. They have asked representatives from Representative Herger and Ose's offices to attend the next Econ/PILT Committee on November 30th.
 - **Outreach Committee** - Laura Allen advised the group that the Committee had reviewed and discussed two proposals and will review a third one just received today. Laura asked the Board how involved it wants to be in the creation of the brochure. Jane Dolan moved, seconded by Denny Bungarz, that the Board delegate authority to the Outreach Committee to select the firm and work with that firm to create logo and brochure; bring package back for the Board to review. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
 - **Project Review Committee** –Denny reported development is still in process, additional members have expressed an interest in being a part of the committee. Will try to do a first meeting via email.
4. **MANAGER'S REPORT** – Burt Bundy congratulated Denny for his appointment to the CALFED Advisory Council. **Hamilton City** held the Levee Festival on October 14th raising

\$4500.00 to add to the local now totaling \$71,000.00. The Cost Share Agreement with the COE, Reclamation Board, and Glenn County was also signed at the Festival. Chuck Rairdan, COE, is the new project manager, working with Alicia Kirchner, Comp. Study/COE. There will be a town hall Meeting on Nov. 27.

There has been no movement on **Woodson Bridge** (Kopta Slough); there has been a request that funding for a COE Section 1135 project for ecosystem restoration be added to the federal 2002 budget. DWR, has announced the Department's interest in utilizing Proposition 13 Flood Protection Corridor Program funds to purchase the **Feeney-Lerch Ranch** below Ord Bend. A public hearing is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on November 13th at the Glenn Pheasant Hunting Center, Highway 45, 2 miles south of Highway 162. **Colusa Sub-Reach** Proposal has been submitted; Burt thanked Doug White and Ben Carter for their efforts in working with TNC on the proposal. The comment period for CALFED proposals will be sometime in January. Burt advised the group of the Water Education Foundation Tour he participated in recently as well as a presentation on local land use planning and the SRCA to a class at California State University, Chico. TNC has received some funding for a **Public Use/Recreation Strategy** and will be working with the SRCA.

The **COE Comprehensive Study** has included the SRCA with their process and Burt also encouraged everyone to attend the Comp. Study workshops. Les Heringer, M&T, was introduced to update the group on the gravel bar situation at the **M&T/Llano Seco**. He noted they are still working on permits, met with F&G to work out 1600 permit and they are working on "Right of Entry" with State Parks. The contractor has started delivering equipment and they hope to move gravel sometime next week; looking at approximately 2 weeks if they work around the clock. Cost of the project is approximately \$400,000.00. Les expressed his thanks for the ongoing support of the SRCA, the assistance offered by the different agencies, and to Diana Jacobs for all of her help. They have applied to CALFED for funding for the long-term study. Les noted he has been involved with the Handbook since 1986 and how important it is for all new people to know what it has taken to put the Handbook together and to know what is in it.

Denny noted that this project points out the need for streamlined (simplified) permitting. He suggested that Les detail an "after action" report that would show the steps that were taken and where the difficulties were encountered. Les suggested Sandy Dunn, who has been extremely helpful, might furnish information also. Tim Ramirez from the Resources Agency suggested putting this together and forwarding the information to Patrick Wright.

Denny reported on an item that was not on the agenda concerning the Watershed Partnerships Project, UC Davis, research project. He attended a workshop on October 22nd for presentation and discussion of the results of the questionnaires sent out to solicit views on various partnerships. He will make the report available at the December meeting.

5. **AGENCY REPORTS** – Rebecca Fris, CALFED, informed the group that the proposals will now go through the extensive review process, they anticipate the public comment period will be in January or February. All of the proposals will be on the web in the next few weeks. Rebecca also noted there was a retirement luncheon held recently in Sacramento for Rita Singer, DWR. Denny suggested the SRCA staff compose a resolution, framed and signed by the Board members to present to her in appreciation of all her efforts on behalf of the SB1086 Program.

Dave Means, WCB, noted their next Board meeting would be on November 28th (corrected date). One item on the agenda will be a grant proposal to TNC for the Vereschagin Property

acquisition. Sam Lawson, TNC, explained that this 454-acre prune and walnut property acquisition would complete all of the transactions required to re-align the J-Levee below Hamilton City. Once the levee location is determined, TNC will restore the land inside the levee and the area outside the levee will be sold and stay in production. The environmental review will be completed prior to any restoration action and land use will continue unchanged until then. Les Heringer noted the information garnered by TNC might be valuable for the M&T as their plan is located right across from the property.

Sam also discussed property located north of Hamilton City owned by Westermann Farms. An option has been signed and the property is being surveyed; they had to comply with California subdivision plan. TNC is utilizing \$5 Mil in restoration funds from the agreement with DWR and The Reclamation Board; they will donate the wet side to Hamilton City as non-federal cost share portion. Sam also advised the group about 74 acres in Stony Creek purchased by TNC in a swap for a conservation easement on land owned farther south. He updated the group on the Pine Creek Unit, property that was purchased with borrowed funds. They were to receive Caltrans funds for 88-1/2% of the purchase amount but the grant has not been approved. Sam indicated modeling has shown that if the land is not managed for agriculture, the existing culverts could be opened to allow water in to the area that would benefit Butte and Glenn County residents and farmers on the other side.

Tim Ramirez announced a California Biodiversity Council meeting will be held in San Joaquin November 14th and 15th similar to the one held here in March. The same issues that are heard in this forum will be addressed there as well. Anyone interested can contact Tim.

The next SRCA Board meeting will be on December 6th, Willows City Hall, Willows, Ca.

6. Adjourn – 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Patricia Brown